

**STATE SENATOR • RAYMOND E. BASHAM • 8TH DISTRICT**

# **Basham Press Release**

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For Immediate Release  
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March 28, 2006  
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## **MINIMUM WAGE BILL SIGNED INTO LAW**

**BASHAM: “A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR HUNDREDS OF  
THOUSANDS ”**

Lansing- Governor Jennifer Granholm signed into law today legislation that will raise the state minimum wage to \$6.95 by October of this year. The bill, Senate Bill 318, authored by Senator Ray Basham (D-Taylor), will raise the minimum wage again to \$7.15 in July of 2007 and finally to \$7.40 in July of 2008.

“Today’s action by Governor Granholm will directly result in a better quality of life for hundreds of thousands of Michigan citizens,” said Basham. “It is a rare moment in public service when you can accomplish something that impacts so many citizens in such a positive manner. This is a great day for everyone involved in this effort.”

Senator Basham joined Governor Granholm and other legislative leaders in a signing ceremony this morning in the Michigan state capitol. Governor Granholm and Senator Basham praised the legislature for ultimately conceding the need for action on the minimum wage. According to the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics, raising the minimum wage by just two dollars per hour would directly benefit at least 464,000 Michigan workers, or nearly 1 in 6 hourly workers statewide.

“The minimum wage remains the single most effective tool that society has available to combat poverty,” said Basham. “Not only will this help low wage workers by increasing their disposal income, it will also benefit the local and state economy because these workers will spend this money on food, fuel, medicine and other daily needs.”

Editor's note: Photos of this morning bill signing are available at:  
<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/basham/pr032806.htm>

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